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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 08/953,154 | 10/17/1997 | KEITH A. KOZAK | 450.154US1 | 3463 |

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EXAMINER

VORTMAN, ANATOLY

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2835

DATE MAILED: 09/25/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

11/9

Office Action Summary

Application No.

08/953,154

Applicant(s)

KOZAK ET AL.

Examiner

Anatoly Vortman

Art Unit

2835

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 August 2002.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11,13-18,20 and 21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11,13-18,20 and 21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Amendments

1. The submission of the Amendment filed on 08/29/02 is acknowledged. At this point non-elected claims 22-28 have been cancelled and independent claims 1, 17, and 20 have been amended. Thus, claims 1-11, 13-18, 20, and 21 are pending in the instant application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claims 1-11, 13-18, 20, and 21, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Independent claims 1, 17, and 20, as amended, recite “a form factor of a standard personal computer keyboard”. The aforementioned recitation is rendering claims indefinite, since there is no standard for the geometry of personal computer keyboards. There are numerous types of keyboards for personal computers on the market having various shapes and configurations (for example, curved ergonomic keyboards or foldable keyboards).

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) do not apply to the examination of this application as the application being examined was not (1) filed on or after November 29, 2000, or (2) voluntarily published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b). Therefore, this application is examined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

5. Claims 1-4, 13-18, 20, and 21, as best understood, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by US/5,835,732 to Kikinis et al., (Kikinis).

Regarding claims 1 and 17, Kikinis disclosed (Fig. 1-6) a keyboard (Fig. 5) comprising: a housing (12) having substantially a form factor of personal computer keyboard; a plurality of keys disposed within the housing; a communication link (26') disposed within the housing (Fig. 6), wherein the communication link (26') is capable of communicating with a computer (66); and, a connector (14'') operatively coupled to the communication link (26'), said connector disposed within the housing and receptive to a corresponding connector (14) of a PDA device (10) such

Art Unit: 2835

that the PDA device (10) communicates with the computer over the communication link (26'') when the connectors (14 and 14') are coupled, (column 4, lines 46+).

Regarding claim 20, Kikinis further disclosed that said PDA device (10) has a touch screen (16), (column 4, lines 56+).

Regarding claims 2-4, 18, and 21, Kikinis disclosed that the housing (12) has a plurality of surfaces (an end surface within the docking bay into which the connector (14') is disposed) defining a cradle cavity (i.e. a docking bay) shaped so that the device (10) fits into the cavity such that at least one surface (front surface) of the device (10) is exposed, (Fig. 5).

Regarding claim 5, Kikinis disclosed that top and bottom surfaces of the device (10) are flush with the corresponding surfaces of the housing (12), (inherited in the structure, since the device (10) is inserted in a docking bay).

Regarding claims 6-8, and 13, Kikinis disclosed that the communication link may comprise serial cable or infrared (wireless) transceiver (column 1, lines 37+).

Regarding claims 9, 10, and 15, Kikinis disclosed a power source operatively coupled to the connector (14') of the keyboard to recharge a battery (15) of the device (10), (column 6, lines 3+).

Regarding claim 11, Kikinis disclosed that said device (10) is a personal digital assistant (PDA) operable in a docking mode or stand-alone mode (column 4, lines 46+; column 6, lines 3+).

Regarding claim 14, Kikinis disclosed that said device (10) has a touch screen (16) having at least one virtual key (column 4, lines 56+).

Regarding claim 16, Kikinis disclosed that said device (10) is a telephone handset, (column 14, lines 27+).

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Also, the Examiner would like to direct the Applicant's attention to the fact that portable computer depicted on Fig. 5 of Kikinis ('732) falls within the category "personal computer", since it is not a mainframe or minicomputer.

Conclusion

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

Art Unit: 2835

however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anatoly Vortman whose telephone number is 703-308-7824.

The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30-6:00, Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Darren Schuberg can be reached on 703-308-4815. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-305-3431 for regular communications and 703-305-3432 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-1782.

Anatoly Vortman
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2835

A.V.
September 24, 2002

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Vortman', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.